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Visiting the Tokyo Game Show

Learn how to use Japanese verbs in the past negative form

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(At home/ in the evening)

A: きょう、とうきょうゲームショウ に いきました。

B: へー。ゲーム を かいましたか。

A: いいえ、かいませんでした。

でも いろいろな モバイルゲーム を しました。

B: モバイル ゲーム？

Vocabulary

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☐ ☑ English Kana Rōmaji

☐ **いきました** [いきました] 1 EXAMPLE

went; masu form(past)

どこにいきましたか。

Where did you go?

☐ **かいました** [かいました] 1 EXAMPLE

bought;masu form (past)

くつをかいました。

I bought shoes.

☐ **でも** [でも] 1 EXAMPLE

but, however, though

いぬがすきです。でも、ねこがきらいです。

I like dogs. But I dislike cats.

☐ **します** [します] 1 EXAMPLE

to do

いまから宿題をします。

I'm going to do my homework now.

☐ **いろいろな** [いろいろな] 1 EXAMPLE

a variety of, various

いろいろなくつがあります。

There is a variety of shoes.

☐ **とうきょうゲームショウ** [とうきょうげーむしょう] 1 EXAMPLE

the Tokyo Game Show

とうきょうゲームショウにいきました。

I went to the Tokyo Game Show.

☐ **ゲーム** [げーむ] 1 EXAMPLE

video games

ぼくはゲームがだいすきです。

I love video games!

☐ **かいます** [かいます] 1 EXAMPLE

to buy;V1

マクドナルドでハンバーガーをかいます。

I'll buy a hamburger at McDonald's.

☐ **きょう** [きょう] 1 EXAMPLE

today

きょうはあついです。

It's hot today.

☐ **モバイルゲーム** [もばいるげーむ] 1 EXAMPLE

mobile games

とうきょうゲームショウでモバイルゲームをしました。

I played mobile games at the Tokyo Game Show.

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Lesson Notes

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Lesson Focus

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking Whether Someone Has Done Something Using Past-Tense Verbs.
ゲーム を かいましたか。
Gēmu o kaimashita ka.
"Did you buy a game?"

In this lesson, you'll learn how to ask whether someone did something using past-tense *-mashita* verbs in questions. You'll also learn how to answer this question both positively and negatively, using positive past-tense (e.g., "I did go") and negative past-tense (e.g., "I didn't go") verbs.

"Did he go home?"

All you have to do to ask a question about someone's past actions is to take the past-tense sentence structure you learned in the previous lesson and add the "question mark" *ka* on the end!

Formation

[Person] *wa* [thing] *o* [verb-*mashita*] *ka* → "Did [person] [verb] [thing]?"

[Person] *wa* [place] *ni* [*kimashita/ikimashita*] *ka* → "Did [person] [come/go] to [place]?"

Answering this question is very easy. You simply say "yes" (はい, *hai*) and then repeat the *-mashita* verb.

For Example:

1. A: きのう、かいものにいきましたか。
Kinō, kaimono ni ikimashita ka.
"Did you go shopping yesterday?"
B: はい、いきました。
Hai, ikimashita.
"Yes, I did."

However, if you want to reply in the negative, you say "no" (いいえ, *iie*) and then use the **past-tense negative verb.**

You remember we studied how to make a present-tense negative verb simply by changing *-masu* into *-masen*?

Well, to make this verb past tense, all you need to do is think of the *-masen* form then add the word *deshita* (でした) on the end. (*Deshita* is actually the past tense of *desu*.)

Formation

v-masen* -> v-*masen deshita

For Example:

MEANING	NON-PAST	NON-PAST NEGATIVE	PAST NEGATIVE
"to eat"	たべます *tabemasu* "eat"	たべません *tabemasen* "don't eat"	たべませんでした *tabemasen deshita* "didn't eat"
"to drink"	のみます *nomimasu* "drink"	のみません *nomimasen* "don't drink"	のみませんでした *nomimasen deshita* "didn't drink"
"to buy"	かいます *kaimasu* "buy"	かいません *kaimasen* "don't buy"	かいませんでした *kaimasen deshita* "didn't buy"
"to go"	いきます *ikimasu* "go"	いきません *ikimasen* "don't go"	いきませんでした *ikimasen deshita* "didn't go"
"to come"	きます *kimasu* "come"	きません *kimasen* "don't come"	きませんでした *kimasen deshita* "didn't come"

For Example:

1. A: あさごはんをたべましたか。
Asagohan o tabemashita ka.
"Did you eat breakfast?"
2. B: いいえ、たべませんでした、
Iie, tabemasen deshita.
"No, I didn't."

-*Suru* Verbs

There is another type of verb in Japanese apart from the ones we have studied so far, such as *tabemasu* and *ikimasu*. These are known as ***-suru* verbs.** These tend to be two-character words taken from Chinese with the Japanese word for "do," する (*-suru*), added on the end.

The polite form of *suru* is します (*shimasu*).

Here are the different forms of *shimasu* that we have learned using other verbs up until now:

NON-PAST	NON-PAST NEGATIVE	PAST	PAST NEGATIVE
shimasu	*shimasen*	*shimashita*	*shimasen deshita*

For Example:

JAPANESE	*ROMANIZATION*	"ENGLISH"
べんきょう（を）します	*benkyō (o) shimasu*	"study"
ゲーム（を）します	*gēmu (o) shimasu*	"play games"
スポーツ（を）します	*supōtsu (o) shimasu*	"do sports"
かいもの（を）します	*kaimono (o) shimasu*	"go shopping"

As you can see from the brackets in the table above, the o/を that comes between the noun and *shimasu* is optional.

Sample Sentences

1. A: ともちゃんはパーティーにいきましたか。
Tomo-chan wa pātī ni ikimashita ka.
"Did Tomo go to the party?"
2. B: はい、いきました。
Hai, ikimashita.
"Yes, she did."
3. まいにち、わたしはべんきょうをします。
Mainichi, watashi wa benkyō o shimasu.
"I study every day."
4. パスタをたべましたが、サラダをたべませんでした。
Pasuta o tabemashita ga, sarada o tabemasen deshita.
"I ate the pasta, but I didn't eat the salad."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- Past tense of verbs → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 19

Key Vocabulary & Phrases

★ いろいろな～ (*iroiro na~*)
This means "all different kinds of ~" or "all sorts of ~". In casual conversation, we often shorten this phrase to いろんな (*iron'na*).

★ でも (*demo*)
Demo means "but." Just as in conversational English, it can come at the beginning of a sentence to introduce a contrasting statement.

Cultural Insights

What Is the Tokyo Game Show?

The famous "Tokyo Game Show," とうきょうゲームショー (*Tōkyō Gēmu Shō*) is a yearly video games expo/convention that is actually held in Chiba prefecture, just north of Tokyo. It usually runs for four days, with the first two days being for industry professionals (journalists, games company representatives, etc.) and the final two days open to the general public. You can try out the latest games from major companies such as Sony, Nintendo, and Sega as well as buy merchandise of your favorite characters. The event always attracts thousands of gamers, as well as many "cosplay," コスプレ(*kosupure*) or "costume play" devotees who dress up as game characters and have their photo taken by other fans.

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Grammar

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Below is a list of the grammar points introduced or used in this lesson. Click for a full explanation.

する suru to do	*Introduced*
動詞の活用（マス形） doushi no katsuyou (masu form) Conjugation of verbs (masu form)	*Introduced*
動詞の活用（マス形） doushi no katsuyou (masu form) Conjugation of verbs (masu form)	*Used*

Lesson Transcript

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